

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AGR-20 DRC-01 /081 W

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R 290630Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8060

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

UNCLAS JIDDA 4386

DEPT PASS USDA

BEIRUT FOR AGR ATTACHE

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SA

SUBJ: SAG SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR MILK PRODUCTION

1. THE SAG COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS ENDORSED A SUBSIDY PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE MILK PRODUCTION. THE PRIMARY SUBSIDY CONSISTS OF A GOVERNMENT CASH GRANT TO COVER THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION OF DAIRY CATTLE FROM THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. IN ADDITION, THE SAUDI AGRICULTURAL BANK WILL PROVIDE LOANS TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE. (UNDER AN ALREADY EXISTING PROGRAM SUBSIDIZING PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, 45 PERCENT OF THE COST OF AUTOMATIC MILKING MACHINES AND OTHER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT WILL ALSO BE PAID BY THE GOV'T.) THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS SET A LOWER LIMIT OF 200 HEAD AS THE MINIMUM COMMERCIALY FEASIBLE DAIRY FARM.

2. THE MINISTRY ALSO INTENDS TO DEVELOP A COLLECTION, PROCESSING, AND DISTRIBUTION NETWORK TO SUPPORT SUCH DAIRY FARMS, AND HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SEEK THE "ASSISTANCE" OF AN EXPERIENCED FOREIGN FIRM IN THIS REGARD. WHETHER "ASSISTANCE" MEANS CONSULTING SERVICE OR A JOINT VENTURE IS NOT CLEAR, AND QUITE PROBABLY NOT YET DETERMINED WITHIN THE SAG.

AKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SAG SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR MILK PRODUCTION  
**TAGS:** BEXP, SA  
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